

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED EXAMINING GROUP 1763

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 07553.0017

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Mitsuru ISHIKAWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1763

Application No.: 09/696,232

Examiner: A. Olsen

Filed: October 26, 2000

Confirmation No.: 5127

Earl ETCHING

For: ETCHING METHOD

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed November 7, 2005, the period for response having been extended to March 7, 2006, by a request for extension of one month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks follow the amendment section of this paper.